

the gentleman correctly—and I will yield for an answer—only four of those were worth having a vote on the floor?

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. No. Thank you for yielding. As I indicated to you, there were substantial mark-ups. For example, the Appropriations Committee met for over 8 hours, and Republicans as well as Democrats had an opportunity to offer their amendments.

You understand and your colleagues understand the process, and I can make this anecdotal and personal. My amendment was not made in order, and I serve on the Rules Committee. I would hope that the gentleman would understand the dynamics of the process.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Reclaiming my time, and I certainly do understand that and the rules process that y'all so patiently sit in. But I also understand the committee process and the part of process that the American people expect us to go through, and these bills did go through Ways and Means and I know the Energy and Commerce.

But I do know that in the Energy and Commerce Committee there were several amendments voted on in Energy and Commerce that were Republican amendments that passed and that the amendments were stripped out of the bill before it ever got to the Rules Committee before it ever got to the floor.

And I'd love to yield to the gentleman to see if he has some type of recollection that that did happen and to find out how these things got taken out of a bill that was passed through that committee.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. If the gentleman will yield, I am certainly not aware of that, and I speak constantly with the majority leader, and I'm not of the mind that the majority leader is aware either.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Well, reclaiming my time, I would hope that my friend would check into that for me so if we have this colloquy again we can do that.

And let me say that I'd like to tell the gentleman, that where the President has set an example, the congressional Democrats have not really followed that as far as acting bipartisan.

And one last question that I'd yield to the gentleman for an answer is you mentioned that there would be a conference on H.R. 1 if it comes back from the Senate this weekend perhaps. I don't know if the other body's going to work this weekend or not, but let's say they do and there's a conference that's set up for Monday on H.R. 1. Are there going to be any Republicans included in that conference committee?

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. As is always the case, first, coming from the other body, as you well know, they're in the process now of dealing with a substantial number of amendments that are being offered by Republicans and Democrats. I can't speak to the conferencing numbers and to its breakdown as it were.

What I do know is that a conference is going to be scheduled, and on yesterday I personally visited Members of the Senate, and I have it on good information that they are going to work through a substantial portion of the weekend, and I suspect that those committees that are the committees of germane jurisdiction will contemplate the ideas of Republicans and Democrats in the conference.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Well, reclaiming my time, could the gentleman just tell me if there will be one Republican on the conference committee?

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. I cannot speak for those that are the Chairs and/or the appointment of members of the conference committee.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Well, reclaiming my time, I hope that our leadership in this House would work in a bipartisan manner, and even though we've been shut out of the process so far, if there is a conference committee, that we would at least be included.

And with that, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Florida.

— **HOUR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2009**

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Monday next, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 10, for morning-hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

— **MOURNING THE LOSS OF RAYMOND M. FITZGERALD**

(Mrs. BIGGERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to mourn the passing of a dear friend, Raymond M. Fitzgerald.

Although he lived in my congressional district in Naperville, Illinois, I got to know him best during his time here in Washington. He began his career as a legislative aid for our former Governor. He went on to work on the staff of the House Science and Technology Committee and as a legislative director to my good friend from Illinois, JOHN SHIMKUS. I know that today there are many still working here in Congress who knew him well and miss him as I do.

Just a few years ago, Ray moved to Naperville with his wife Kristen to raise their three beautiful daughters, Nora, Maggie, and Lucy. But having taken a job in government relations for a major company in my district, he made regular trips back here to see all his good friends and colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, Ray was a wonderful human being with a positive attitude and great talent for public service and

science policy. He was always full of life and cheer.

And in the short 37 years that he was with us before succumbing to cancer, he built a lasting legacy of friends, family, and professional success.

Mr. Speaker, I insert into the RECORD the Chicago Tribune article about Ray's life.

[From the Chicago Tribune, Jan. 26, 2009]

RAYMOND M. FITZGERALD, 1971-2009:
NAVISTAR LOBBYIST

(By Joan Giangrasse Kates)

You could take a South Sider and move him to Washington, but in the case of Raymond M. Fitzgerald, you couldn't take the South Side out of the man.

The youngest of six children and only son of a Chicago fireman, Mr. Fitzgerald carried with him the values of faith, family and friends when he moved in 1994 to Capitol Hill to serve as a legislative aide for five years to then-Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar. He later worked for a year as a member of the staff on the House Science and Technology Committee.

From 2000 to 2005, Mr. Fitzgerald served as the legislative director to U.S. Rep. John Shimkus (R-IL), who quickly took note of the quintessential South Sider's authenticity and unflappability.

"From the start, Ray was as honest and straightforward as they come," said Shimkus, from Downstate Collinsville. "He never lost his cool, and in our business, people respect that."

For four years, Mr. Fitzgerald worked in the Warrenville offices of commercial trucks and engines giant Navistar Inc., using his vast knowledge in the field of energy issues and technologies and making frequent trips to Washington.

Mr. Fitzgerald, 37, of Naperville, a former director of legislative affairs and government relations for Navistar, died Wednesday, Jan. 21, in Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, after a nine-month battle with stomach cancer.

"He had the respect of so many in Washington," said Tim Touhy, Navistar's director of corporate communications. "He knew a great deal about energy, and he knew his way around policymaking."

But perhaps Mr. Fitzgerald's biggest coup in Washington wasn't a piece of legislation, but scoring a visit to the White House when his beloved White Sox met President George Bush after winning the 2005 World Series.

"He was all smiles that day standing there next to his team," said longtime friend Paul Doucette.

Born in Evergreen Park and raised on the South Side, Mr. Fitzgerald was a graduate of Brother Rice High School in Chicago. He received a bachelor's degree in economics and political science from Northern Illinois University.

In 2001, Mr. Fitzgerald married his wife, Kristin. He moved with his family to Naperville in 2005 after accepting a job with Navistar.

In addition to his wife, other survivors include three daughters, Nora, Maggie and Lucy; his mother, Kaye; and five sisters, Colleen Zientek, Mary O'Donnell, Debbie Noll, Linda Trinley and Maureen Harkala.

Mass will be said at 10 a.m. Monday in St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 2825 W. 81st St., Chicago.

Mr. Speaker, finally I'd like to offer my sincerest sympathies to Ray Fitzgerald's family, especially his wife, Kristen, his daughters, mother, and five loving sisters who grew up with him in Chicago's south side. They will all remain in our thoughts and prayers.